



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

ALISON LAND  
COMMISSIONER

DEPARTMENT OF  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

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## PUBLIC HEARING

December 1, 202

Via Zoom: <https://dbhds.zoomgov.com/j/1614362008> Password: Synar#21  
(10:00 AM – 12:00 PM)

In compliance with the grant application process requirements for federal funding of substance abuse prevention and treatment under 45 CFR §96.130, DBHDS will hold a public hearing to receive comments on the Synar Annual Report for the Virginia Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant Application for Federal Fiscal Year 2020. Copies of the report are available for review at <http://www.virginiapreventionworks.org/virginia-annual-synar-report/>

## AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
- III. PURPOSE
- IV. HEARING PROCESS
- V. PUBLIC COMMENTS (*TIME LIMITED PER SPEAKER*)
- VI. CLOSING COMMENTS
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

COMMENTS:

Comments may be made at the hearing or in writing by no later than November 23, 2020 to the Office of the Commissioner, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, P.O. Box 1797, Richmond, VA 23218. Any person wishing to make a presentation at the hearing should contact Colleen Hughes, Behavioral Health Wellness Consultant, Office of Behavioral Health Wellness. Copies of oral presentations should be filed at the time of the hearing.

**CONTACT:**

Colleen Hughes, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, P.O. Box 1797, Richmond, VA 23218. Telephone (804)387-5240, FAX (804) 225-4251 or e-mail: [colleen.hughes@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:colleen.hughes@dbhds.virginia.gov)

**BACKGROUND: PURPOSE OF THE HEARING**

In July 1992, Congress enacted the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration Reorganization Act (PL 102-321), which includes an amendment (section 1926) aimed at decreasing youth access to tobacco. This amendment, named for its sponsor, Congressman Mike Synar of Oklahoma, requires states (that is, all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and six Pacific jurisdictions) to enact and enforce laws prohibiting the sale or distribution of tobacco products to individuals under the age of 18. States must comply with the Synar Amendment in order to receive their full Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant (SABG) awards. Section 1941 of the PHS Act requires States to offer the public an opportunity for comment on the State SAPT plan. In addition to this requirement, the final rule requires each State to submit for public comment the elements of the SAPT Block Grant report that relate to implementing this regulation.